

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**ARTS 252 Portfolio Development: Studio Arts**

**I. Basic Course Information**

A. Course Number and Title: ARTS 252 Portfolio Development: Studio Arts

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: FALL      Year: 2023

D. **Effective Term: Fall 2024**

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts and Design

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours:    4      Lecture: 2

Laboratory: 2

Out of Class student work per week: 5

H. Prerequisites:

ARTS105 Two-Dimensional Design

ARTS108 Three-Dimensional Design

ARTS132 Color Theory

ARTS111Basic Drawing II

I. Laboratory Fees: NONE

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:

Virginia Smith   Virginia.Smith@raritanval.edu

Darren McManus   Darren.McManus@raritanval.edu

Dean at time of approval:

Patrice Marks   Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu

## **II. Catalog Description**

### **Prerequisites**

ARTS105 Two-Dimensional Design  
ARTS108 Three-Dimensional Design  
ARTS132 Color Theory  
ARTS111 Basic Drawing II

This course is designed to help prepare students majoring in Visual Arts to successfully transfer to a B.F.A. or B.A. in Art program or prepare an industry quality portfolio suitable for pursuing immediate work. The course will cover topics such as designing web and print portfolios, properly photographing and preparing images of art work, writing artist's statements, assessing career options, and resume development. Students will purchase some art supplies.

## **III. Statement of Course Need**

- A. This course is a required course in the Associate of Fine Arts Degree, in Visual Arts. The course is an important course in helping the students successfully transfer to a four-year Bachelors of Fine Arts program. A portfolio of artwork is one of the most important aspects of successfully transferring for the art major.
- B. This course has a lab component that utilizes computer lab with an access to various graphic software.
- C. This course generally transfers as a visual art program elective dependent on the institution.

## **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free Elective.
- B. This course does not serve as a General Education course.
- C. This course satisfies the requirement for the Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

## **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. Discussions about career and transfer possibilities in class and with possible visits from the following:
  - 1. Visit by RVCC college counselor.
  - 2. Visits by various art department representatives from nearby 4-year college programs such as Mason Gross School of the Arts, Kean University, University of the Arts, Rutgers-Newark, William Paterson University, and The School of Visual Arts.
  - 3. Visits by professional artists and gallery owners.
- B. Portfolio Preparation: In class discussion and hands-on demonstrations and projects:
  - 1. Photographing art work
  - 2. Preparing images in digital format
  - 3. Developing a cohesive print/electronic portfolio book
  - 4. Web Portfolio
  - 5. Writing assignments
    - a. Artist's statement/essay preparation/resume preparation
- C. Exhibition/Professional Practicum
  - 1. Discussion of professional development:
    - a. Selection of venues for exhibition
    - c. Process of exhibiting
    - d. Process of organizing an exhibition
    - e. Design job markets
    - f. Self-branding and artist/designer identity management
  - 2. Students will organize a group exhibition
    - a. theme
    - b. organize committees to:
      - i. plan and produce poster and postcard
      - ii. install the exhibition
      - iii. refreshments and opening reception
- D. Portfolio Review
  - 1. Individual portfolio review of each students' artwork
    - a. student will bring in as much work from all their art courses.
    - b. Instructor and/or visiting arts professionals will discuss the quality of the prepared portfolio.
    - c. Instructor and/or visiting arts professionals will discuss career possibilities with each student during Portfolio Review.

## **VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply the procedures to prepare a professional portfolio, resume and artist statement materials. (GE 1, \*)
  2. Research the requirements and procedures for transfer to a four year arts program. (IL)
  3. Engage in the process of assessing and critiquing their own art work and that of their peers. (GE 6 , \*)
  4. Prepare a suitable portfolio for transfer to 4-year art programs, gallery participation, and/or career exploration.
- (\*Embedded critical thinking)

**B. Assessment Instruments:**

1. Printed and web based portfolio
2. Written Essay and artist statement
3. Class participation in critiques
4. Participation in capstone gallery show

**VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. Written Essay and artist statement
- B. Class participation in critiques
- C. Participation in capstone gallery show
- D. Printed and web based portfolio

Primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Hands on activities
- C. Assigned readings
- D. Attendance of Visits by art school representatives, artists
- E. Portfolio Presentation

**VIII. Texts and Materials**

- A. Suggested textbooks such as:  
     How to Survive and Prosper as an Artist: Selling Yourself without  
     Selling Your Soul - 7th edition by Caroll Michels / Published by  
     Allworth Press / ISBN# 978162153613
- B. Hand Outs and Web Readings.

- C. Students will be responsible for the manufacture of a physical portfolio book or object.
- D. Any necessary art supplies required for the completion of the portfolio object.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

## **IX. Resources**

- A. Physical workspace for A24
- B. Use of A24 Digital Art Studio
- C. Use of photo equipment
- D. Use of mini-gallery

**X.** ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☒ N/A